

being of an obscure greyish-brown tinged with green, and having the head dark brown, the tubercles, both dorsal and lateral, brownish-black, and the last abdominal segment (that bearing the anal claspers) ochreous. In form it is more attenuated and less robust. My observations go to show that throughout the life of the animal its tendency is to increase in width, the adult larva being proportionately of greater girth, and capable of less extension than the young. In its fully grown state, particularly when about to change to the pupa, it bears a striking resemblance to the larvæ of certain Saw-flies or Tenthredinidæ, many of which, like the moth under consideration, are internal feeders, but this likeness is only superficial, as the number of the feet, and the position of the spiracles, clearly indicate its lepidopterous nature; and I may add its general structure accords with what we know of the larvæ of the family Phycitidæ.

The pupa or chrysalis is reddish-brown, and is enclosed in an elongate tough cocoon, composed of coarse grey silk. Usually the cocoon is placed at the entrance to the burrow in which the larva has lived, but sometimes it is found attached to the stem of the food-plant. In no case did I observe them upon the leaves, although in a few instances I saw three or four cocoons spun together in a mass and attached to a twig; in every instance, however, they were found near the burrows from which the larvæ had made their escape.

EXPLANATION OF PLATE II.

- Fig. 1. *Epicrocis terebrans*, Olliff ♂.
 „ 2. Outline of same showing natural size.
 „ 3. Venation of same. Forewing 11 veins; hindwing 9 veins.
 „ 4. Larva of same about two-thirds grown.
 „ 5. Larva of same about to pupate.
 „ 6. Pupa of same, and portion of cocoon.
 „ 7, 8, and 9. Stems or “leaders” of Red Cedar showing borings of larvæ, cocoons, and pupa *in situ*.
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NOTE ON *PIEZORHYNCHUS LEUCOTIS*, GOULD, *PYCNOPTILUS FLOCCOSUS*, GOULD, AND OTHERS RARE TO NEW SOUTH WALES.

BY E. P. RAMSAY.

Piezorhynchus leucotis has hitherto been recorded only from Queensland and northwards therefrom, but I have recently had an opportunity of examining a fresh specimen shot in a dense part of a damp scrubby gully in one of the gorges of the Blue

Mountains. The specimen is an adult male in full plumage. Several years ago I searched for this bird in the Richmond and Clarence Rivers scrubs, but found it not, although *P. gouldii*, Gray, was by no means rare. There is no difference in the size of the New South Wales bird and those from Port Denison, the wings and tail being in both cases respectively from 2·7 to 2·8.

Pycnoptilus floccosus, Gould, is this season (1889) particularly plentiful in the valleys of the Blue Mountains; I noticed also flocks of *Estrellda bella* and *E. bichenorii*, which had been liberated some six years ago and have taken kindly to their new home.

NOTES ON THE NIDIFICATION OF *MERULA VINITINCTA*,
GOULD, AND *OCYDROMUS SYLVESTRIS*, SCLATER,
FROM LORD HOWE ISLAND.

BY A. J. NORTH.

MR. J. R. ICELY, the Visiting Magistrate of Lord Howe Island, has lately returned to Sydney, bringing with him a number of specimens acquired on behalf of the Trustees of the Australian Museum, among which are the nest and eggs of *Merula vinitincta*, and the eggs of *Ocydromus sylvestris*, and from which the following descriptions are taken:—

MERULA VINITINCTA, Gould. Vinous-tinted Blackbird.

“*Doctor Bird*.” Inhabitants of Lord Howe Island.

A nest of this species, taken during the month of October, 1889, is elliptical in form, with a small cup-shaped depression in the top, and is composed throughout of strips of palm leaves and fibre of one of the species of *Kentia* peculiar to the Island, together with skeletons of leaves, but without any special lining, it measures exteriorly seven inches in diameter by five inches in depth; internally, three inches in depth by two and a half inches across. Mr. Icely states that the nest was built in the branches of a shrub not far from the ground. The eggs are two in number for a sitting, inclining to elongated ovals in form, slightly pointed at one end, of a pale greenish-grey ground colour, with freckles, dots, and longitudinal markings of reddish-brown dispersed over the entire surface of the shell, in some places a few nearly obsolete blotches of purplish-grey appear. Length (A) 1·15 x 0·77 inch; (B) 1·12 x 0·77 inch.* Plate i., fig. 5.

* P.L.S., N.S.W., 2nd Ser., Vol. iv., Dec., 1889.